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**Charles L Samuels\*** (clsamuels@okcu.edu), Oklahoma City University, Department of Mathematics, 2501 N. Blackwelder, Oklahoma City, OK 73106. *Using trees to find optimal factorizations of numbers.*

Dubickas and Smyth introduced the metric Mahler measure as a method of examining questions related to Lehmer's problem. A slight generalization of their work allows us to study factorizations of algebraic numbers having certain extremal properties, called optimal factorizations. In this talk, we describe a method using trees which enables us to search for these optimal factorizations. This work is joint with T.J. Strunk. (Received August 10, 2014)